

Artists of Abraham Lincoln portraits

Edward Dalton Marchant

Excerpts from newspapers and other sources

From the files of the Lincoln Financial Foundation Collection

HISTORIC SITE

By The News-Gazette Rare Lincoln portraits to be displayed in Old State Capito.

field will soon get the chance to see two rare 19th-century por-Southern Illinois University traits of Abraham Lincoln, the Old State Capitol in Springthanks to Morris Library at Carbondale. SPRINGFIELD — Visitors to

portraits by Alban Jasper Conant and Edward Dalton Marchant for display while an The SIU library is loaning the

> streets, Springfield.
> Wayne Temple, chief deputy 7 p.m. Thursday at the down-town Old State Capitol State Hisextensive renovation and expansion project continues at Morris toric Site at Fifth and Adams unveiled at a reception from 5 to Library. The portraits will be

Library, Illinois State Historical ments will follow. The Morris director of the Illinois State Archives, will speak. Refresh-

sponsors of the event.

Conant (1821-1915) painted the larger, smiling Lincoln portrait in 1865. Common belief is length view on a contemporary photograph. Marchant (1806-Union League of Philadelphia Marchant's landmark 1863 that he based the three-quarterstrait that bears resemblance to 1887) painted the smaller por-

Society and Illinois Historic Preservation Agency are co-

might have served as a study for portrait of Lincoln and which that painting.

unveiling event or portraits, call 558-8899. For the past year, the more information about the at the Old State Capitol. For coln portraits until January 2009 been on loan to the David Davis historic Lincoln portraits have Mansion historic site in Bloom-The public may view the Lin-



Two Portraits Of Lincoln On Public Display

Last Edited: Thursday, 08 Feb 2007, 5:53 AM CST Created: Thursday, 08 Feb 2007, 5:53 AM CST

BLOOMINGTON, III. (AP) --Two rarely viewed portraits of Abraham Lincoln will be on public display at Bloomington's David Davis Mansion Historic Site this

month.
The paintings usually hang in a seldom-used board room in a library at Southern Illinois University in Carbondale. But that that building is being renovated.

Morris Library spokesman Gordon Pruett says the paintings by American artists Edward Dalton Marchant and

Alban Conant will be on loan temporarily.



The Conant painting dates to 1865 and shows Lincoln holding what is believed to be the Emancipation Proclamation. The Marchant portrait depicts Lincoln with a background of a broken chain wrapped around a pillar. It's meant to symbolize the end of slavery.

The temporary exhibit opens February 15th.

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These objects used in our "Lincoln from Life" exhibit in 1999.

EXHIBIT ITEMS

Item

29a

Artist

Marchant, Edward Dalton

Medium

Painting

Title of Work

[First Portrayal of Lincoln as the Emancipator]

Dimensions

59"x49"

Exhibit Section

2

Institution

Union League of Philadelphia



Neg # 2984

Label

"A labor of love"

Edward Dalton Marchant (1806-1887) Oil on canvas 1863, Washington

Marchant, a respected artist, was commissioned by Lincoln's "personal and political friends" in Philadelphia to paint this portrait to hang in Independence Hall. The President immediately consented to sit. "My studio was for several months in the White House," Marchant testified, "where I was in daily communication with the remarkable man whose features I sought to portray." The artist regarded the project as "more truly a labor of love than I am often permitted to perform." But like earlier portrait painters, he found Lincoln "the most difficult subject," and in the end he relied heavily on an 1861 photograph to supplement his sittings.

This first life portrait of Lincoln as Emancipator shows him dressed in white tie, with symbolic broken chains beneath the feet of the "Liberty" statue in the background. The picture was only briefly (if ever) displayed in Independence Hall, but was instead placed in the Union League Club of Philadelphia.

On loan from The Abraham Lincoln Foundation of The Union League of Philadelphia



EXHIBIT ITEMS

29h Photo Item Artist Executive Mansion. Medium Graphic Major Gen. Hooker

If it will be no detir.

Ment to the series I will be obligue
for leapt Henry A. Marchant to
come of Company I. 23 m Brun.

eyeveria bols, to come here, and

remains four or five days.

Mircoles Washington, Feb. 2). , 186 3 .. Title of Work Presidential pass for Capt. Mar 10-3/4"H x 12"W Dimensions **Exhibit Section** Illinois State Historical Library Institution

Neg#

Label

A presidential pass - for the artist's son

Lincoln not only posed for Marchant but also wrote this pass furloughing the artist's son from the army, ostensibly to consult on the canvas; the younger Marchant had been a minor painter in civilian life. Captain Marchant was killed in action when he returned to the service.

Reproduction courtesy of the Illinois State Historical Library



EXHIBIT ITEMS

Item

30

Artist

Unknown

Medium

Photograph

Title of Work

O-55 Washington, D.C. before

Dimensions

Exhibit Section

2

Institution

The Lincoln Museum



Neg # 0-55

Label

Photograph, possibly by C. D. Fredericks

Before June 30, 1861

Washington

This pose was nearly two years old when Edward Dalton Marchant employed it as a model for his 1863 "Great Emancipator" painting. By then, Lincoln was wearing a different style cravat, and had changed his hair and beard style.

From The Lincoln Museum collection

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EXHIBIT ITEMS

Item

31a

Artist

Sartain, John

Medium

Print

Title of Work

"Abraham Lincoln, 16th Presid

Dimensions

22-1/2"x17-5/8"

Exhibit Section

2

Institution

The Lincoln Museum



Neg # 3326

Label

John Sartain (1808-1897)

"Abraham Lincoln, 16th President of the United States"

[facsimile signature]

Engraving, published by Bradley & Co., Philadelphia, 1864

After the painting by Edward Dalton Marchant

The first of several print adaptations of Marchant's life portrait of Lincoln, this engraving was published in time for the 1864 presidential election. In contrast to the original canvas, Sartain's print features the clearly visible signatures of Lincoln and Secretary of State William H. Seward on the Proclamation. Public demand for the print was so great that at one time nearly a thousand copies were produced each day.

From The Lincoln Museum collection

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REMEMBERING LINCOLN'S EMANCIPATION PROCLAMATION

By: Harold Holzer

pages 124-131.

The Antique Trader: February 11, 1987, pp. 66-71

[PAINTINGS], [FACE], [SMILE], [PORTRAIT SITTINGS]
[CONANT, ALBAN J.], [BARRY, CHARLES A.], [BUFFORD,
JOHN H.], [BROWN, JOHN H.], [READ, JOHN M.],
[SARTAIN, SAMUEL], [PRINTS, CAMPAIGN], [WRIGHT,
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D.], [LAMBDIN, JAMES R.], [LAMB, A.A.], [CARPENTER]
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The Connoisseur: 1. 199 (Oct., 1978),



